Clearance of commission programmes by Doordarshan

4311. SHRI VITHALBHAI M. PATEL: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a number of Commission programmes have been cleared by Doordarshan in the last one year;

(b) if so, the detalls thereof;

(c) what will be the expenditure on the Commission programmes cleared by Doordarshan;

(d) whether it is also a fact that a number of Commission programmes are pending for clearance since last over two years; and

(e) if so, what are the reasons for not clearing these programmes for over two years?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS): (a) to (c) During the current financial year Doordarshan has commissioned 138 programmes at a cost of Rs. 10.04 crores.

(d) and (e) Yes, Sir. The proposals were not processed earlier primarily on account of the stay imposed on the processing of such cases by the Madras High Court.

Clearance of serials by Doordarshan

4312. SHRI VITHALBHAI M. PATEL: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that barring 62 sponsored serials, all other sponsored serials have been found regular by C.B.I.;

(b) if so, whether those sponsored serials which have been cleared by CBI have been cleared by his Ministry; and

(c) how many serials have already been cleared by Doordarshan?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS): (a) According to the interim report submitted by the CBI, irregularities have been observed in the selection of 62 serials.

(b) and (c) Doordarshan has been directed to prioritise the serials in respect of which CBI has not reported any irregularities. The prioritisation will be done on the basis of the programme requirements of Doordarshan.

Clearance of serial on Bible

4313. MAULANA OBAIDULLAH KHAN AZMI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that inspite of Doordarshan authorities having clear the serial 'Stories from Bible', the same has not been given any time slot for telecast on Doordarshan;

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor; and

(c) by when the serial is likely to be telecast?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS): (a) to (c) On completion of all pre-telecast formalities, the telecast of the serial, 'Bible Ki Kahaniyan' has started from 20th December, 1992.